

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communications system comprising:
 - a host system in communication with one or more client systems, the host system having a serialized inventory control system configured to:
 - receive serialized information;
 - apply validation rules to the serialized information;
 - flag exceptions to the validation rules; and
 - report the exceptions,wherein the serialized inventory control system includes database logic to check that that serialized information does not exist for an entering inventory item and that serialized information does exist for an exiting inventory item.
 2. The communications system of claim 1, wherein the serialized information comprises an electronic serial number.
 3. The communications system of claim 2, wherein the electronic serial number is associated with a finished good.
 4. The communications system of claim 3, wherein the finished good comprises a handset.
 5. The communications system of claim 2, wherein the electronic serial number is associated with a component of a finished good.

6. The communications system of claim 1, wherein the serialized information comprises immigration data.
7. The communications system of claim 1, wherein the host system further comprises an enterprise resource planning system.
8. The communications system of claim 2, wherein the enterprise resource planning system comprises a purchasing module configured to cover purchase receipts and returns.
9. The communications system of claim 2, wherein the enterprise resource planning system comprises an inventory module configured to cover inventory receipt, inventory transfer, inventory activation, and inventory adjustments.
10. The communications system of claim 2, wherein the enterprise resource planning system comprises an order management module configured to cover manufacturing processes, sales transactions, and sales returns transactions.
11. The communications system of claim 1, wherein the host system further comprises a manufacturing system.
12. The communications system of claim 1, wherein the serialized inventory control system comprises a database structure configured to store values pertaining to serial number transactions.

13. The communications system of claim 12, wherein the serialized inventory control system further comprises a serial number data entry application configured for allowing a user to register serialized information.
14. The communications system of claim 12, wherein the serialized inventory control system comprises a procedure configured to update and check integrity of the serialized information.
15. The communications system of claim 12, wherein the serialized inventory control system comprises a procedure for updating and checking integrity of the serialized information.
16. The communications system of claim 12, wherein the serialized inventory control system comprises an reporting interface for creating and modifying reports.
17. A method of inventory control capable of being performed by a computer system, the method comprising the steps of:
 - receiving serialized data;
 - applying validation rules to the serialized data;
 - flagging exceptions to the validation rules; and
 - reporting the exceptions,wherein the validation rules comprise database logic to check that that serialized data does not exist for an entering inventory item and that serialized data does exist for an exiting inventory item.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the computer system comprises at least one of a host system and a client system.

19. A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, the computer program comprising instructions to:

- receive serialized information;
- apply validation rules to the serialized information;
- flag exceptions to the validation rules; and
- report the exceptions.

20. The computer program of claim 19, wherein the computer-readable medium comprises at least one of a client device, a network device, a host device, a disk, and a propagated signal.